

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
Bureau of Entomology and Plant Quarantine  
Washington, D. C.

B. E. P. Q.--469  
(Superseding P. Q. C. A.--289)

February 5, 1938

PLANT-QUARANTINE IMPORT RESTRICTIONS  
OF THE  
KINGDOM OF ITALY



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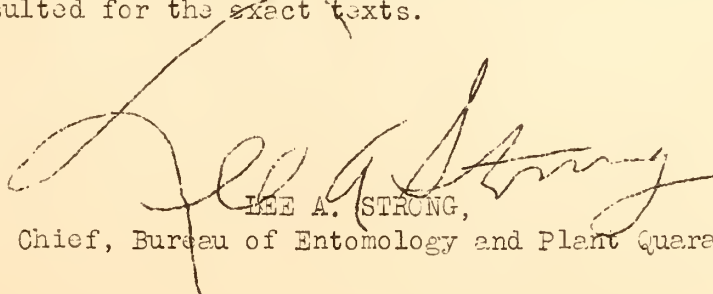
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This revised digest of the plant-quarantine import restrictions of the Kingdom of Italy was rendered necessary by the abrogation of older legislation and its supersession by more recent enactments. It was prepared for the information of nurserymen, plant-quarantine officials, and others interested in the exportation of plants and plant products to that country, by Harry B. Shaw, Plant Quarantine Inspector in Charge, Foreign Information Service, Division of Foreign Plant Quarantines, from the original texts of the various Italian laws and decrees concerned, and reviewed by the Italian Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry.

The information contained in this circular is believed to be correct up to the time of preparation, but it is not intended to be used independently of, nor as a substitute for, the original texts, and it is not to be interpreted as legally authoritative. The said laws and decrees should be consulted for the exact texts.



LEE A. STRONG,  
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PLANT-QUARANTINE IMPORT RESTRICTIONS

OF THE

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BASIC LEGISLATION

Law No. 987 of June 18, 1931, as amended by Decree-Law No. 913, June 23, 1932 and Decree-Law No. 1530 of June 12, 1936. International Phylloxera Convention of Berne, November 3, 1881, and provisions adopted by the Italian Government

Powers under Law No. 987 of June 18, 1931

Article 8. The Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry (Ministero dell'Agricoltura e delle foreste), with the advice of the Ministry of Corporations (Ministero delle corporazioni), can by decree:

- (a) Suspend the importation into, and transit through, the Kingdom of plants, parts of plants, and seeds found to be infected.
- (b) Establish frontier stations and ports through which the importation and transit of plants, parts of plants, and plant products may take place.
- (c) Promulgate rules and regulations to be observed for the importation of the products referred to in the preceding paragraph.

Art. 9. Delegates of the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry assigned for supervisory service at frontier stations and ports, according to the rules promulgated by the said Ministry, have the following functions:

- (a) To impose the disinfection or destruction of plants, parts of plants, and seeds regarded as infected, as well as of materials, packing, containers, and such other articles as may serve as vehicles of infection.

- (b) To prohibit the introduction into the Kingdom, and transit through it, of plants and seeds found infested or bearing pathogenic organisms or parasites.

The provisions of Law No. 987 of June 18, 1931, as amended, are administered under regulations promulgated under Decree-law No. 913 of June 23, 1932, and Law No. 1933 of December 22, 1932.

#### SUMMARY

##### Importation and Transit Prohibited from All Countries

- ALMONDS IN THE SHELL (Amygdalus communis L.). (Decree of March 3, 1927, art. 8 (i), p.7.)
- BANANA PLANTS AND FRUITS (Musa spp.). (Decree of March 3, 1927, art. 8 (g), p.7.)
- CACTUS PLANTS AND FRUITS (Cactaceae). (Ministerial Order of December 20, 1932, p.11.)
- CITRUS FRUITS and parts thereof, including fresh peel. (Decree of March 3, 1927, art. 8 (d), p. 6.) (See items 3 and 4 of Derogations from the Decree of March 3, 1927, for exceptions; p.8.)
- CONIFEROUS PLANTS and parts of plants, including the genera Abies, Picea, Pinus, Pseudotsuga, and Tsuga. (Ministerial Order of December 20, 1932, p.11.)
- ELM PLANTS and parts thereof (Ulmus spp.), except the seeds. (Ministerial Decree of March 29, 1933, p.12.)
- FERMENTED GRAPE MARC, OLIVE HUSKS (Olea europaea L.) for the extraction of oil  
MULBERRY LEAVES (Morus spp.). (International Phylloxera Convention of Berne, November 5, 1881.)
- PALM AND LAUREL LEAVES, fresh. (Decree of March 3, 1927, art. 8 (j), p.7.)
- PINEAPPLE PLANTS AND FRUITS (Ananas sativus Schult.). (Decree of March 3, 1927, art. 8 (h), p.7.)

POTATOES (Solanum tuberosum L.), including tubers and green parts;  
TOMATOES (Lycopersicum esculentum Mill.) and other Solanaceae,  
including fruits and green parts. (Decree of March 3, 1927,  
art. 8 (e), p.6.) (For exceptions see Derogations from the Decree  
of March 3, 1927, p.8.)

VEGETABLE MANURES AND COMPOSTS. (International Phylloxera Convention of  
Berne and provisions adopted by the Italian Government.)

Importation and Transit Prohibited  
From Canada, France, Spain, and the United States

GRAPEVINES (Vitis spp.), European and American, including scions and  
cuttings. (Decree of March 3, 1927, art. 8 (a), p.6.) Used props  
and supports for grapevines. (International Phylloxera Convention  
of Berne, November 3, 1881.)

Importation and Transit Prohibited from Africa

CORN (Zea mays L.), stalks and ears. (Decree of March 3, 1927, art. 8 (f).  
p.7.)

Importation and Transit Prohibited from Argentina, Australia,  
Brazil, Canada, Chile, China, Hawaii, India, Japan, Mexico,  
South Africa, and the United States

FRUIT-BEARING PLANTS, PARTS THEREOF, AND FRESH FRUITS OF ANY KIND.  
(Decree of March 3, 1927, art. (c), p.6.)

Importation and Transit Prohibited from North and South America,  
China, and the Orient in General

CHESTNUT (Castanea spp.), including trees, fruits, seeds, bark, branches,  
and trunks with bark. (Decree of March 3, 1927, art. 8 (b), p.6.):  
Importation and transit prohibited also from countries that have  
not taken precautionary measures against chestnut-bark disease.

### Importation Restricted

LIVE PLANTS, PARTS OF PLANTS, seeds, and other products intended for cultivation or propagation, not specifically mentioned in the prohibitions, and proceeding from permitted countries of origin: Importation subject to compliance with the effective provisions of the Law of June 18, 1931, articles 8 and 9, and the Decree of March 3, 1927, articles 1, 2, 3, 4, 9, 10, 11, and 12.

SEEDS OF FORAGE-CROP PLANTS (Legumes and grasses): Importation subject to inspection for dodder (Cuscuta spp.). (Decree of March 3, 1927, article 7, p.5.) The port of Ancona also is authorized for the importation of such seeds. The port of Messina also is opened for the entry of vegetable seeds. (Circular No. 44609, December 21, 1932.)

### Importation Unrestricted

PLANT PRODUCTS intended for food and industrial purposes, not included among those indicated in article 8 of the Decree of March 3, 1927, may be admitted through any customs port of entry.

### RESTRICTIONS ON THE IMPORTATION OF PLANTS AND PLANT PRODUCTS

[Ministerial decree of March 3, 1927 (Gazetta Ufficiale No. 73, March 29, 1927), as amended by that of July 18, 1928 (Gaz. Uff. No. 191, August 17, 1928) ]

### Authorized Ports of Entry

Article 1. The importation of living plants, parts of plants, seeds and other plant products, from foreign countries, intended for breeding and propagation, may be effected through the following customs



ports of entry: Brindisi, Cagliari, Catania, Fiume, Genoa, Livorno, Milan, Naples, Palermo, Rome, Syracuse, Taranto, Trieste, Turin, Udine, Venice, Ventimiglia, and Verona.

The entry of forage-crop and grass seeds is authorized also through the port of Ancona and the entry of vegetable seeds also through the port of Messina.

Art. 2. Packages containing the said plants must be refused entry when presented at other customs offices. However, such packages may be reshipped to the nearest customs office among those above named, when the interested person requests the customs authority to do so and offers to pay the cost of reshipment.

If the railroad station of destination is situated between the frontier station and the place where one of the offices named in article 1 is located, or if it is situated on a railroad diverging from the normal itinerary which the shipment should follow to reach the customs office authorized for importation, the frontier customs office at which the shipment was presented is authorized, at the request of the interested person, to hold the shipment, fully informing the competent regional pathological laboratory. The latter will carry out the prescribed inspection in the manner and place deemed most convenient, at the expense of the interested person.

#### Inspection Required

Art. 3. Shipments of the plant material referred to in article 1 are admitted for importation after inspection by a phytopathologist designated by the Ministry of National Economy at the authorized customs office, in accordance with the provisions of articles 8 and 9 of Law No. 987 of June 18, 1931.

Art. 4. When a shipment is admitted for importation, the precautionary measures prescribed by article 9 of Law No. 987 of June 18, 1931, and article 23 of the regulations under that law are to be applied by the designated phytopathologist at the expense of the interested person.

Arts. 5 and 6. Revoked by the decree of July 18, 1928.

#### Forage-plant Seeds Must Be Free from Dodder

Art. 7. Seeds of forage-crop plants are admitted for importation when the absence of any species of Cuscuta has been ascertained. That is accomplished by the phytopathological inspector, or by an authorized seed control laboratory from samples withdrawn by that inspector.

Importation and Transit Prohibited

Art.8. The importation and transit of the following plants and parts thereof are suspended:

- (a) European and American grapevine (Vitis spp.) stocks and cuttings from Canada, France, Spain, and the United States, on account of the black rot, Guignardia bidwellii (Ell.) Viala & Ravaz, the regulations against phylloxera remaining effective. (International Phylloxera Convention of Berne.)
- (b) Chestnut trees (Castanea spp.), including the fruits, seeds, bark, branches and trunks with bark, from North and South America, China, and the Orient in general, as well as from any country which has not taken precautionary measures against the chestnut bark disease, Endothia parasitica (Murr.) Ander. & Ander.
- (c) Fruit-bearing plants, parts thereof, and fresh fruits of all kinds from Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Canada, Chile, China, Hawaii, India, Japan, Mexico, Union of South Africa, and the United States, on account of the San Jose scale, Aspidiotus perniciosus Comst.; the oriental fruit moth, (Laspeyresia) Grapholitha molesta Busck.; foreign fruit flies; and the fungus Diaporthe perniciosae Marchal.
- (d) Citrus plants, parts thereof, fresh citrus fruits and peel (cortex) of such fruits, from all foreign countries, on account of Glover's scale, Lepidosaphes gloveri Pack. the citrus whitefly, (Aleyrodes) Dialeurodes citri Ashm.; citrus canker, Bacterium citri Hesse; the pink disease, Corticium salmonicolor B. & Br.; Sphaeropsis tumefaciens Hedges; and lime withertip, Gloeosporium limetticolum R. F. Clausen.
- (e) Potato tubers, fruit, and green parts of every species of the Solanaceae (tomatoes (Lycopersicum spp.), eggplants (Solanum melongena L.), peppers (Capsicum spp.)) from all foreign countries, on account of the potato wart disease, Synchytrium endobioticum (Schilb.) Perc.; potato tuber worm (Phthorimaea) Gnorimoschema operculella Zell.; the Colorado potato beetle, Leptinotarsa decemlineata Say; and the potato flea beetle, Epitrix cucumeris Harr.

- (f) Stems and ears of corn (Zea mays) from every country in Africa, on account of the maize stalk borer, Sesamia calamistis Hamp.
- (g) Banana plants and fruits (Musa spp.), on account of Comstock's mealybug, Pseudococcus comstocki Kuwana; the Argentine ant, Iridomyrmex humilis Mayr.; black rot of sugarcane, Thielaviopsis paradoxa (De Sey.) V. Hoch.; and the Panama wilt disease, Fusarium cubense E.F.Sm.
- (h) Pineapple plants and fruits (Ananas sativus Schult), on account of the danger of introducing with them injurious foreign scale insects, as well as black rot of sugarcane, Thielaviopsis paradoxa (De Sey) V. Hoch.; and the Panama wilt disease, Fusarium cubense E. F. Sm.
- (i) Almonds in the shell (Amygdalus communis L.), on account of Eurytoma amygdali End. of the almond, and shot hole and fruit spot of Prunus, Ascochyta chlorospora Speg.
- (j) Fresh palm and laurel leaves, on account of the danger of introducing injurious foreign scale insects not at present existing in Italy.

Regulations Applicable to Plant Material  
Introduced by Travelers

Art. 9. The provisions of the preceding articles apply also to plants, parts of plants, and seeds intended for breeding, and to other plant products brought in by travelers from foreign countries.

Art. 10. The unloading on free points, from vessels arriving in ports of the Kingdom, of plants, parts of plants, and plant products the importation and transit of which is suspended, is prohibited.

Art. 11. The preceding provisions are not applicable to importations made by the Ministry of National Economy.

Importation Unrestricted of Plant Products  
Intended for Food and Industrial Purposes

Art. 12. Plant products intended for food and for industrial purposes, not included among those indicated in article 8, are admitted for importation through any customs port of entry, the provisions of article 9 of Law 987 of June 18, 1931, remaining effective. (See p. 5.).

Art. 13. This decree becomes effective May 1, 1927, and revokes those of February 21, 1921, and August 4, 1921.

DEROGATIONS FROM THE DECREE OF MARCH 3, 1927

Potatoes

1. Order No. 45012, October 18, 1927, provides for the transit solely through the port of Trieste and further shipment by sea of potatoes proceeding by land from Czechoslovakia, Poland, and Yugoslavia.
2. Order No. 7910, February 27, 1925, provides for the transit of potatoes from Malta through the territory of Italy.

Citrus Fruits

3. Orders No. 5046, January 26, 1928, and No. 44903, October 18, 1927, provide that the transit of citrus fruits proceeding by sea from Palestine or the Aegean Islands may be effected only through the ports of Trieste and Fiume.
4. Order No. 35166, July 18, 1928, provides for the transit of citrus fruits originating in other sources than Palestine and the Aegean Islands, solely through the ports of Genoa and Trieste.



## PHYLLOXERA RESTRICTIONS

Packages containing plants and plant products whose importation is authorized, are admitted to entry into the Kingdom on condition that they are free from animal or plant parasites and that they contain neither fragments nor leaves of the grapevine.

### Shipper's Declaration and Phylloxera Certificate Required

If such packages proceed from foreign countries that have not adhered to the International Phylloxera Convention of Berne, they must be accompanied by a shipper's declaration and an attestation by competent authority. The first shall (a) declare that the contents of the shipment proceed exclusively from his establishment; (b) indicate the place of destination and the address of the consignee; (c) affirm that no grapevine stocks are included in the shipment; (d) indicate whether the shipment contains plants with particles of soil; (e) bear the signature of the shipper.

The attestation of the authority of the country of origin shall be issued on the declaration of an official expert designated for research and supervision of phylloxera and shall bear the following data: (a) That the plants proceed from ground at least 20 meters distant from any grapevine stock or other obstacle, deemed by the said authority to be sufficient, to the propagation (spread) of the roots; (b) that the said ground contains no grapevine stocks; (c) that no such plants are stored there; (d) that if phylloxerated grapevines had been found there, their radical extirpation had been effected, by an insecticide, or other means, during a period of 3 years, with appropriate research to insure the complete destruction of insects and roots. The above attestation (for countries that adhere to the Phylloxera Convention) is not necessary with respect to shipments of plants proceeding from an establishment registered in the list of establishments officially declared in accordance with the provisions of the International Convention of Berne.

The expenses involved in the inspection and storage are charged against the interested persons.

## POTATO RESTRICTIONS

The Ministerial Decree of March 3, 1927, article 8 (e), prohibiting the importation of potatoes from any source, remains effective, but by derogation from that decree, the importation of seed potatoes is permitted under prescribed conditions promulgated

annually by Ministerial decree.

That decree will prescribe the period of the year concerned during which seed potatoes may be imported, the variety and quantity and the conditions under which they may be imported.

#### Import Permit Required

An import permit must first be obtained from the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry.

#### Freedom of Origin from Potato Parasites

The seed potatoes to be imported must originate in localities free from the following parasites:

Leptinotarsa decemlineata Say, Colorado potato beetle  
Synchytrium endobioticum. (Schilb.) Perc., potato wart  
Gnorimoschema operculella Zell., potato tuber worm  
Heterodera rostochiensis, potato nematode (eelworm)  
Ebitrix cucumeris Harr., potato flea beetle

The potatoes must be taken from fields under the technical supervision of a government institution of the exporting country, especially with reference to so-called virus diseases.

#### Phytosanitary Certificate Required

The sacks in which the potatoes are shipped must be sealed by the plant protection authorities of the country of origin and be accompanied by a phytosanitary certificate indicating origin and affirming that the fields in which the potatoes were grown are free from the above-named parasites; that within a radius of 200 km of the place where the potatoes were grown the Colorado potato beetle has not been found, and that the presence of the other parasites has not been determined within a radius of 2 km; that the potatoes are shipped in new containers; that each container was personally sealed by the inspector with the official seal of the plant-inspection service and that the potatoes are free from earth. It must also be certified that the plants from which the potatoes were harvested showed no visible symptoms of virus diseases.

### Authorized Ports of Entry

The authorized ports of entry for seed potatoes during the prescribed period are Bari, Brindisi, Cagliari, Catania, Chiasso, Domodossola, Fortezza (Klausen), Genoa, Modane, Naples, Trieste, and Udine.

### IMPORTATION AND TRANSIT OF CACTUS PLANTS AND FRUITS PROHIBITED

(Ministerial Order of Dec. 20, 1932; Gazzetta Ufficiale No. 37, Feb. 14, 1933)

The importation into, and transit through, Italy are prohibited of cactus plants and fruits proceeding from any country, on account of the danger of introducing insects, fungi or bacteria that are injurious to the pricklypear, (Opuntia ficus-indica).

### IMPORTATION OF PLANTS OF ABIES, PICEA, PINUS, PSEUDOTSUGA, AND TSUGA PROHIBITED

(Ministerial Order of Dec. 20, 1932; Gazzetta Ufficiale No. 37, Feb. 14, 1933)

The importation into Italy of plants, and parts thereof, of conifers of the genera Abies, Picea, Pinus, Pseudotsuga, and Tsuga is prohibited.

The importation of plants, and parts thereof, belonging to other species of conifers is permitted on condition that they are accompanied by a certificate, issued by the plant-protection service of the country of origin, in Italian or French, affirming that the plants or parts of plants included in the shipment are free from injurious pests and diseases and especially from Rhabdocline pseudo-tsugae.

The same certificate must also indicate the origin of the products and the species of the products included in the shipment, as well as data necessary for the identification of the shipment.



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# IMPORTATION AND TRANSIT OF ELMS PROHIBITED

(Ministerial decree of Mar. 29, 1933; Gazzetta Ufficiale No. 104,  
May 4, 1933)

The importation into, and transit through, Italy from all foreign countries of plants and parts of plants of the genus Ulmus, except the seed, are prohibited on account of the danger of introducing foreign scale insects (Coccidae) which are very injurious to Italian fruit culture.